



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

January 20, 2010

Exemption No. 9996
Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2009-1034

Mr. Chris Prevost
North Bay Air Museum, Inc.
23982 Arnold Drive
Sonoma, CA 95476

Dear Mr. Prevost:

This letter is to inform you that we have granted your request for exemption. It transmits our decision, explains its basis, and gives you the conditions and limitations of the exemption, including the date it ends.

The Basis for Our Decision

By letter dated October 28, 2009, you petitioned the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on behalf of the North Bay Air Museum, Inc. (NBAM), for an exemption from §§ 91.315, 119.5(g), and 119.21(a) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR). That exemption, if granted, would allow NBAM to conduct historical flight experience operations in its North American F-51 (F-51) and Curtis P-40 (P-40).

The FAA has determined that good cause exists for not publishing a summary of the petition in the Federal Register because the requested exemption would not set a precedent, and any delay in acting on this petition would be detrimental to NBAM.

The FAA has issued grants of exemption in circumstances similar in all material respects to those presented in your petition. In Partial Grant of Exemption No. 9902 (copy enclosed), the FAA found that preserving historic U.S. aircraft is in the public interest, in the same manner that preserving historic buildings, landmarks, and neighborhoods has been determined to be in the public interest. While the aviation history can be represented with static displays in museums in the same manner that historic landmarks can be represented in museums, the

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public has shown a willingness to support the preservation and operation of historic aircraft and a desire to experience flights in them.

Having reviewed your reasons for requesting an exemption, I find that—

- they do not differ materially from those presented by the petitioner in the enclosed grant of exemption;
- the reasons stated by the FAA for granting the enclosed exemption also apply to the situation you present; and
- a grant of exemption is in the public interest.

Our Decision

Under the authority contained in 49 U.S.C. 40113 and 44701, which the FAA Administrator has delegated to me, I hereby grant North Bay Air Museum an exemption from 14 CFR §§ 91.315, 119.5(g), and 119.21(a) to the extent necessary to allow NBAM to operate its aircraft as listed in condition no. 1, which have been issued a limited airworthiness certificate, to carry passengers on local flights in return for donations, subject to the conditions and limitations described below.

Conditions and Limitations

1. This exemption applies only to the airplanes listed below:
 - a. North American F-51, N51GP; and
 - b. Curtis P-40, N540TP.
2. The exemption holder must maintain its limited category airplanes in accordance with the:
 - a. Maintenance requirements as specified in the appropriate type certificate data sheet, as amended;
 - b. FAA-approved maintenance inspection program; and
 - c. The appropriate military technical manuals.
3. The pilot in command (PIC) for the F-51 and P-40 must:
 - a. Hold at least a commercial pilot certificate with an airplane single-engine land rating, an airplane instrument rating, and the aircraft authorization;
 - b. Have completed within the previous 12 calendar months, the exemption holder's PIC qualification and recurrent flight and ground training program in each specific airplane for which PIC privileges are sought;
 - c. Have completed within the previous 12 calendar months, the exemption holder's PIC proficiency check in each specific airplane for which PIC privileges are sought;

- d. Have at least a total of 2,500 hours of aeronautical flight experience, 1,000 hours of aeronautical flight experience in single-engine land airplanes, and 25 hours in each specific airplane; or have at least a total of 1,000 hours of aeronautical flight experience, 200 hours of aeronautical flight experience in a single-engine land airplane, and 100 hours and 50 takeoffs and 50 landings in each specific airplane; and
 - e. Have accomplished within the previous 90 days, three takeoffs and three landings to a full stop in each specific airplane for which PIC privileges are sought. For initial PIC qualification in the specific airplane or if the pilot has allowed his/her takeoff and landing currency to lapse in each specific airplane, the takeoff and landing currency may not be accomplished during passenger-carrying operations.
4. The exemption holder must develop and maintain written F-51 and P-40 qualification and recurrent ground training programs for its PICs in the F-51 and P-40 that cover the training subjects listed below. Each PIC in the F-51 and P-40 must receive the following training within the previous 12 calendar months and be found to be competent and knowledgeable in these areas prior to serving in a PIC position in the F-51 and P-40:

| REQUIRED TRAINING TASKS | |
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| a. General information and description of the airplane; | |
| b. Airplane limitations; | |
| c. Airplane servicing; | |
| d. Airspeeds; | |
| e. Fuel system; | |
| f. Electrical system; | |
| g. Hydraulic system; | |
| h. Engines; | |
| i. Instruments and avionics; | |
| j. Landing gear, brakes, controls, and flaps systems; | |
| k. Propeller; | |
| l. Emergency procedures, including— | |
| (i) Instruction in emergency assignments and procedures, including coordination among crewmembers; | |
| (ii) Individual instruction in the location, function, and operation of emergency equipment, including— | |
| A. First aid equipment and its proper use; and | |
| B. Portable fire extinguishers, with emphasis on the type of extinguisher to be used on different classes of fires. | |
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| (iii) Instruction in the handling of emergency situations, including— |
| A. Fire in flight or on the surface and smoke control procedures with emphasis on electrical equipment and related circuit breakers found in cabin areas; and |
| B. Illness, injury, or other abnormal situations involving passengers or crewmembers. |
| m. Weight and balance; |
| n. Performance planning; |
| o. Airplane's checklist; and |
| p. Differences in type. |

6. The exemption holder must develop and maintain written F-51 and P-40 qualification and recurrent flight training programs for its PICs in the F-51 and P-40 that cover the areas of operations and tasks, as listed in the following table of training tasks. Each PIC in the F-51 and P-40 must successfully accomplish this training before being assigned PIC responsibilities and duties. Each PIC in the F-51 and P-40 must receive and successfully accomplish the following training within the previous 12 calendar months and be found to be competent and proficient in these areas prior to serving in a PIC position in the F-51 and P-40 for the exemption holder:

| REQUIRED TRAINING TASKS |
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| a. Preflight Preparation— (i) Airplane exam (oral or written); and (ii) Airplane performance & limitations (oral or written). |
| b. Ground Operations— (i) Preflight inspection; (ii) Cockpit resource management; (iii) Powerplant start procedures; (iv) Taxiing; and (v) Pre-takeoff checks. |
| c. Takeoffs & Departures— (i) Normal & crosswind takeoffs; (ii) Powerplant failure; and (iii) Rejected takeoffs. |
| d. In-flight Maneuvers— (i) Steep turns; (ii) Approach to stalls; (iii) Powerplant failure; and (iv) Specific flight characteristics. |
| e. Landings & Approaches to Landing— (i) Normal & crosswind approaches & landing; (ii) Power off landings; (iii) Rejected landing; and (iv) Landing from a no flap or a nonstandard flap approach. |

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| <p>f. Normal & Abnormal Procedures—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Powerplant; (ii) Fuel system; (iii) Electrical system; (iv) Hydraulic system; (v) Environmental & pressurization system (as appropriate and if equipped); (vi) Fire detection & extinguishing system; (vii) Navigation & avionics system; (viii) Automatic flight control system, electronic flight instrument system, & related systems (as appropriate and if equipped); (ix) Flight control system; (x) Anti-ice & deice system; and (xi) Airplane & personal emergency equipment. |
| <p>g. Emergency Procedures—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) In-flight fire & smoke removal; (ii) Rapid decompression (as appropriate and if equipped with a pressurization system); (iii) Emergency descent; (iv) Ditching; and (v) Emergency evacuation. |
| <p>h. Post flight Procedures—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) After landing procedures; and (ii) Parking and securing airplane. |

7. The exemption holder may not use a pilot nor may any pilot serve as a pilot in any airplane unless, since the beginning of the 12th calendar month before that service, that pilot has passed a competency check given by the FAA or an authorized check pilot in that airplane to determine the pilot's competence in practical skills and techniques in the appropriate airplane. The competency check will consist of the appropriate maneuvers and procedures currently required for the original issuance of the commercial pilot certificate. The FAA's local jurisdictional Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) where the aircraft is permanently based will determine what maneuvers and procedures are critical, such as preflight preparation, ground operations, takeoffs and departures, and normal procedures, etc., and maneuvers and procedures that may be unsafe for a particular airplane.
8. Recurrent flight training for pilots must include, at least, flight training in the maneuvers and procedures in this exemption. However, satisfactory completion of the check required by this exemption within the preceding 12 calendar months may be substituted for recurrent flight training.

9. The exemption holder must document and record all ground and flight training and/or testing required by this grant of exemption in a manner acceptable to the FAA's local jurisdictional FSDO where the aircraft is permanently based. That documentation and records must contain the following information:
 - a. Date of each training session;
 - b. Date of each testing session;
 - c. The amount of time of each session of ground and flight training given;
 - d. The amount of time of each session of ground and flight testing given;
 - e. Location where each session of ground and flight training was given;
 - f. Location where each session of ground and flight testing was given;
 - g. The airplane identification number in which each flight training session was received;
 - h. The airplane identification number in which each flight testing session was received;
 - i. The name and certificate number of the pilot who provided each session of training;
 - j. The name and certificate number of the pilot who provided each session of testing;
 - k. The signature and printed name of the pilot who received the training. That pilot's signature will serve as a verification of having received each session of training; and
 - l. The signature and printed name of the pilot who received the testing. That pilot's signature will serve as a verification of having received each session of testing.
10. When requested, the exemption holder's pilot qualification and recurrent ground- and flight-training programs and/or records listed in conditions above must be made available to the FAA's local jurisdictional FSDO where the aircraft are permanently based.
11. The exemption holder must have the services of an FAA-certificated airframe and powerplant mechanic or an appropriately rated repair station available at all stopovers to perform all required maintenance inspections and repairs.
12. The exemption holder will maintain the following information and records and will make those records available for review to the FAA when requested:
 - a. The name of each pilot crewmember the exemption holder authorizes to conduct flight operations in its airplanes under the terms of this exemption;
 - b. Copies of each PIC's pilot certificate, medical certificate, qualifications, and initial and recurrent training and testing documentation to comply with the conditions listed above; and

- c. Records of maintenance performed and maintenance inspection records to comply with the conditions above, as appropriate. Maintenance and inspection records must meet the requirements of §§ 43.9, 43.11, and 91.405.
- 13. Before permitting a person to be carried on board its airplanes for the purposes authorized under this exemption, the exemption holder will inform that person that its airplanes hold only a limited airworthiness certificate; the significance of the airworthiness certificate as compared to a standard airworthiness certificate; and that the FAA has authorized this flight under a grant of exemption from the requirements of §§ 91.315, 91.319, 119.5(g), and 119.21(a). The explanation of the significance of a limited airworthiness certificate compared to a standard airworthiness certificate must include at least the following information:
 - a. The FAA has not established nor has it approved limited category airworthiness certificated airplane manufacturing standards. In contrast, standard category airworthiness certificated airplanes are manufactured to FAA-approved standards, including standards addressing the design of the airplane and life-limited parts;
 - b. Limited category airworthiness certificated airplanes are issued when the FAA finds the airplane—
 - i. Has been previously issued a limited category type certificate and the airplane conforms to that type certificate; and
 - ii. To be in a good state of preservation and repair and is in a safe operating condition.
 - c. Standard category airworthiness certificates are issued for an airplane when the FAA finds the—
 - i. Airplane has been built and maintained in accordance with that airplane's type certification standards as established by the FAA; and
 - ii. Airplane's inspection and maintenance requirements are in compliance with the applicable Federal Aviation Regulations.
- 14. The exemption holder must notify the FAA's local jurisdictional FSDO where the aircraft are permanently based within 24 hours of any of the following occurrences by written report, by electronic mail, or by facsimile:
 - a. Each in-flight fire in any system or area that requires activation of any fire suppression system or discharge of a portable fire extinguisher;
 - b. Each exhaust system component failure, including the turbocharger components, that causes damage to any engine, structure, cowling, or components;
 - c. Each airplane component or system that causes, during flight, accumulation or circulation of noxious fumes, smoke, or vapor in any portion of the cabin or crew area;

- d. Except for training, each occurrence of engine shutdown or propeller feathering, and the reason for such shutdown or feathering;
- e. Each failure of the propeller governing systems or feathering systems;
- f. Any landing gear system or component failures or malfunctions, which require use of emergency or standby extension systems;
- g. Each failure or malfunction of the wheel brake system that causes loss of brake control on the ground;
- h. Each airplane structure that requires major repair due to damage, deformation, or corrosion, and the method of repair;
- i. Each failure or malfunction of the fuel system, tanks, pumps, or valves;
- j. Each malfunction, failure, or defect in any system or component that requires taking emergency action of any type during the course of any flight; and
- k. For the purpose of this section, “during flight” means the period from the moment the airplane leaves the surface of the earth on takeoff until it touches down on landing.

15. All flight operations must be conducted:

- a. At a minimum operating altitude of not less than 1,000 feet above ground level (AGL);
- b. Between the hours of official sunrise and sunset, as established in the American Air Almanac, as converted to local time;
- c. Within a 25-statute-mile radius of the departure airport with landings only permitted at the departure airport;
- d. With a minimum flight visibility of not less than 3 statute miles and a minimum ceiling of not less than 1,500 feet AGL;
- e. Passenger-carrying operations for compensation may be conducted at distances greater than 25 statute miles of the departure airport up to 50 statute miles with concurrence of the FAA FSDO having geographic responsibility for the aviation event. For such flights, landings are only permitted at the departure airport;
- f. For passenger-carrying flights greater than 25 statute miles from the departure airport and up to 50 statute miles, the PIC must obtain weather reports and forecasts prior to flight and valid for the duration of the proposed operation that indicate that the weather would be no less than 5 statute miles visibility and cloud ceilings no less than 2,000 feet AGL. Passenger-carrying operations shall be terminated if ceiling and visibility become less than the minimum required by these conditions and limitations. Weather forecasts listing discriminators such as probability (PROB), becoming (BECOMG) or temporarily (TEMPO) shall be limiting; and

- g. The airplane may only be operated from an airport that has a fire station or fire-fighting services available or within close proximity of the airport.
- 16. No persons other than the assigned flight crewmembers may be permitted on the pilot station of the airplanes during flight operations.
- 17. Except for essential crewmembers, all flight operations must carry no more than the maximum number of passengers permitted by the airplane's weight and balance limitations and number of approved seats in the airplane.
- 18. All airplanes must have the equipment listed in §§ 91.205(b) and 91.207 and that equipment must be in an operable condition during the flight.
- 19. The exemption holder must hold and continue to hold a determination from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service that it is a § 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organization under §§ 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 20. The exemption holder must notify the FAA's local jurisdictional FSDO where the aircraft are permanently based at least 5 working days (Mondays through Fridays) before conducting any PIC initial or recurrent qualification training and any PIC initial or recurrent proficiency checks required to be conducted under the terms of this grant of exemption.
- 21. No later than 72 hours prior to commencing flight operations under the terms of this grant of exemption, the exemption holder must notify the jurisdictional FAA FSDO where it intends to conduct the flight operations and shall provide a copy of this exemption to that jurisdictional FAA FSDO.
- 22. Failure to comply with any of the conditions and limitations of this grant of exemption will be grounds for the immediate suspension or revocation of the exemption.

This exemption terminates on January 31, 2012, unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Sincerely,

/s/

John W. McGraw
Acting Director, Flight Standards
Service

Enclosure